

their wonderful children Nathan, Ben, Sylvie, Charlotte, and Luke, have contributed to shine a light on this truly worthy and necessary cause.●

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION FIGHTING BLINDNESS

● Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Foundation Fighting Blindness. This Maryland-based nonprofit has become the world's leading private source of research funding to save and restore vision for individuals affected by blinding retinal diseases like macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, and Usher syndrome. These conditions currently affect more than 10 million Americans—and millions more throughout the world.

Even though the foundation has a global reach, its origins are local. In 1971, a Maryland family learned that two of their three daughters were going blind. At the time, there was no treatment for blindness and few resources for the blind; the family was only told to teach their daughters Braille. Despite these challenging circumstances, this brave family banded together with friends and community members to organize a movement around those struggling with blindness. These early efforts paved the way for the establishment of the foundation we know today.

Since its creation, the foundation has raised over \$800 million to support cutting-edge research at the vanguard of the fight to cure blindness. Their efforts have identified more than 270 genes that cause retinal diseases and led to more than 40 clinical trials for potential sight-saving and sight-restoring therapies. The first-ever FDA-approved gene therapy for inherited retinal research was made possible thanks to \$10 million in funding from the foundation. This innovative treatment has enabled children and young adults born virtually blind to see the faces of their parents and even gaze at stars in the sky.

The millions of dollars raised by this organization have already helped make big strides in the area of blindness research, but the foundation's work is far from over. Today, the foundation continues to invest in new frontiers of discovery. Their funding is fueling efforts by major biotech and pharmaceutical companies to move more therapies from the lab bench to clinical trials and, hopefully, treatments. And through its unwavering commitment and persistence, the foundation raised the funds to establish the first ever interdisciplinary laboratory dedicated to research for inherited retinal diseases, which will serve as an engine of future discoveries and advancements.

The foundation's work inspires us all, and I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the founders and leaders of the Foundation Fighting Blindness on their 50 years of innovative work transforming the lives of millions around the world.●

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4. A bill to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2359. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Tulsa, Oklahoma" (DA 21-1161) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2360. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of the Boundaries of the Santa Lucia Highlands and Arroyo Seco Viticultural Areas" (RIN1513-AC55) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2361. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Virginia Peninsula Viticultural Area" (RIN1513-AC71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2362. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulation; Lighthouse Musicfest, Huntington Bay, Long Island, NY" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0653)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2363. A communication from the Deputy Director and Acting Director of Privacy and Open Government, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act of 2017 Implementation" (RIN0605-AA49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2364. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone, Recurring Events in Captain of the Port Duluth - Bridgefest Regatta Fireworks" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0610)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2365. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Temporary Safety Zone; Ferdon Wedding Fire-

works Display, Harbor Springs, MI; Sector Sault Sainte Marie Captain of the Port Zone" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0608)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2366. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone, Recurring Events in Captain of the Port Duluth - Bridgefest Regatta Fireworks" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0610)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2367. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone, Potomac River, Prince William County, VA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0497)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2368. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone, Corpus Christi Bay; Corpus Christi, TX" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0569)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 23, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2369. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pyraclostrobin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8857-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2370. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fluazainam; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8664-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2371. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Spinetoram; Pesticide Tolerances; Corrections" (FRL No. 8962-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2372. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a violation of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2373. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Legislative Affairs, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Consumer Credit Card Market (September 2021)"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2374. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13413 with respect to the Democratic Republic of the Congo; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.